

Claim Amendments

Claim 1 (currently amended): A switch of a network comprising:

a port card for sending and receiving packets to and from the network; and

a plurality of fabrics connected to the port card, each fabric switching portions of a packet, each fabric having a queue in which portions first portions and second portions of the packet are stored; a first dequeuer for dequeuing [[the]] one or more of the first portions of the packet; a second dequeuer for dequeuing [[the]] one or more of the second portions of the packet; and a state machine for controlling when the first and second dequeuers dequeue the first and second portions, respectively, of the packet.

Claim 2 (original): A switch as described in Claim 1 wherein the first dequeuer and second dequeuer operate independently of each other.

Claim 3 (original) A switch as described in Claim 2 wherein the queue, state machine, and first and second dequeuers are disposed in a memory controller of each fabric.

Claim 4 (original): A switch as described in Claim 3 wherein the port card has output ports that connect with the network and only 2 bits per output port are required for using the output port.

Claim 5 (original): A switch as described in Claim 4 wherein the fabric has an aggregator which receives portions of packets as stripes and connects to the memory controller, and a separator which connects to the memory controller and sends portions of the packets as stripes to the port card.

Claim 6 (original): A switch as described in Claim 5 wherein the port card includes a striper which sends portions of packets as stripes to the aggregator of each fabric, and an unstriper which receives portions of packets as stripes from the separator of each fabric.

Claim 7 (original): A switch as described in Claim 6 wherein the state machine controls the first and second dequeuers to practice APS.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A switch as described in Claim 7 wherein each first dequeuer of each fabric dequeues the first portions of the packets in the queue to which they are connected synchronously with all the other first dequeuers in all the other fabrics, and

each second dequeuer of each fabric dequeues the second portions of the packets in the queue to which they are connected synchronously with all the other second dequeuers in all the other fabrics.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A method for sending packets with a switch of a network comprising the steps of:

dequeuing with a first dequeuer of a fabric one or more first portions of a packet from a queue of the fabric; and

dequeuing with a second dequeuer of the fabric [[the]] one or more second portions of the packet from the queue after in the first dequeuer has dequeued [[the]] one or more first portions of the packet.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A method as described in Claim 9 wherein before the dequeuing with the first dequeuer step, there is the step of controlling with a state machine of the fabric when the first and second dequeuers dequeue the first and second portions, respectively, of the packet.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A method as described in Claim 10 wherein the dequeuing with the second dequeuer step includes the step of dequeuing with a second dequeuer of the fabric the second portions of the packet from the queue independent of the operation of the first dequeuer.

Claim 12 (original): A method as described in Claim 11 wherein the queue, state machine, and first and second dequeuers are disposed in a memory controller of each fabric, and before the dequeuing with the first dequeuing step there is the step of receiving the portions of packets as stripes at an aggregator of the fabric which is connected to the memory controller.

Claim 13 (original): A method as described in Claim 12 wherein after the dequeuing with the first dequeuer step, there is the step of sending the portions of the packets as stripes with a separator of the fabric to a port card.

Claim 14 (original): A method as described in Claim 13 wherein before the controlling step, there are the steps of receiving packets at a striper of the port card and sending portions of the packets as stripes to the aggregator of each fabric.

Claim 15 (original): A method as described in Claim 14 wherein the sending portions of the packets as stripes with the separator includes the step of sending the portions of the packets as stripes with the separator to an unstriper of the port card.

Claim 16 (original): A method as described in Claim 15 wherein the controlling step includes the step of controlling the first and second dequeuers to practice APS.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A method as described in Claim 16 wherein the dequeuing with the first dequeuer step includes the step of dequeuing with the first dequeuer the first portions of the packet synchronously with the first portions of packets in queues being dequeued by all other first dequeuers in all the other fabrics to which the first dequeuers are correspondingly connected.—Preferably, and the dequeuing with the second dequeuer step includes the step of dequeuing with the second dequeuer the second portions of the packet synchronously with the second portions of packets in queues being dequeued by all other second dequeuers in all other fabrics to which the second dequeuers are correspondingly connected.